

**Anniston Outdoor Association
Schedule of Activities
January 2015**

January 10 - 2nd Saturday Pinhoti Day Hike with the JSU Field School

This will be a 5.5 mile hike on the Pinhoti Trail beginning at Clairmont Gap and ending at the Talladega Creek Bridge, both located at different points on USFS Road 600. This section travels below the ridgeline parallel to the road for about 2.6 miles where along the way it crosses a rocky area called "The Rock Garden" before ascending back across the road. After crossing the road, the trail travels another 1.4 miles past an area known as "Rocky Top # 2" before crossing the road a second time. From the second road crossing, the trail travels mostly downhill for another 1.3 miles before reaching the road a third time about .2 miles from the bridge. The majority of this entire section is characterized by rocky terrain so sturdy footwear is highly recommended. Those planning to participate should bring a lunch with something to drink and dress appropriately for the forecasted weather conditions for the day. The departure time and location for this outing will be 8:00 am from the Publix parking lot located at the Oxford Exchange adjacent to Exit 188 on I-20 and US Hwy 78. For more information and to register your participation, please contact Keith Hudson by office phone at 256-239-8746, by cell phone at 256-239-8746, or by email at aoa@anniston.al.gov. This outing will be provided free of charge to AOA members while non-members are asked to pay a nominal \$5.00 fee.

January 24 - Pinhoti Trail Day Hike - Duggar Mountain Section

This will be an 8.8 mile hike over Duggar Mountain located in the Duggar Mountain Wilderness Area of the Talladega National Forest. This section of the Pinhoti runs from Forest Service Road 500 to the Burns Trailhead located on Cleburne County Road 55 (also known as Rabbittown Road). The section is rated difficult due to its 1250 ft. elevation gain and basically ascends up the side of the mountain, follows along the mountain ridge, and then descends back down the mountain. Points of interest along the way include native plant life, the site of the removed Duggar Mountain Fire Tower, panoramic views of the Piedmont countryside, remains of an 1990's era plane crash, Jones Branch Road, and remnants of the old Pinky Burns home site. Sturdy hiking boots or shoes, a lunch, and plenty of water are recommended for this hike. The departure time and location for this outing will be 8:00 a.m. from the Winn Dixie parking lot in Jacksonville. Please contact Michael Martin by phone at 256-239-2123, or by email at mikemartin6674@gmail.com, if you would like additional information or plan to participate in this hike.